

REMARKS

In accordance with the claims as submitted on April 8, 2003, we submit this amendment to clarify that claims 26-32, 44, 45, and 47 are pending in this application. Applicants believed that claims 33-43 and 46 were previously cancelled from this application; however, the Examiner has indicated that the Office has not yet cancelled these claims. Applicants file this supplemental reply to cancel these claims.

In our September 9, 2003 Amendment, Applicants incorrectly referred to claim 44 as cancelled. Claim 44 should remain as pending. Claim 44 is drawn to use of a SLIC-1 protein comprising residues 160-226, and it was submitted in amended form in the April 8, 2003 response. The specification discloses the actual reduction to practice of the 1-160 and 1-226 truncated forms of SLIC-1, demonstrating that under conditions in which the 1-226 truncation binds PSGL-1 specifically, the 1-160 truncation does not. Applicants have support for the endpoints of the recited fragment of SEQ ID NO:1, and the associated activity. One skilled in the art would understand that Applicants were in possession of the 160-226 fragment of SLIC-1, and would be able to make and use the invention as claimed without undue experimentation. Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 26-32, 44, 45, and 47-56 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed cancellation of claims 33-43 and 46 does not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

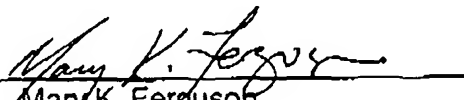
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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